

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 12-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-6, 8-11 and 16-20 are canceled (without prejudice or disclaimer) and claims 7 and 12 are amended.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth below; b) does not raise any new reasons that require further search and/or consideration; and c) places the application in better form for an appeal should an appeal be necessary. More specifically, claims 7 and 12-15 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the February 3 Office Action. The above amendments rewrite the allowable dependent claims 7 and 12 into independent form. More specifically, independent claim 7 includes features of claims 1, 5 and 7, and independent claim 12 include features of claims 11 and 12. A very minor amendment was made to independent claim 11 for clarity. Independent claims 7 and 12 are therefore allowable. Thus, no further search and/or consideration is necessary by the Examiner. Entry is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 7 and 12-15 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David C. Oren**, at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 09/395,206
Reply to Office Action dated February 3, 2004

Docket No. P-035

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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